

REMARKS

Claims 1-6 are pending.

Claim 6 was objected to because it was believed that claim 6 is a repeat of claim 5 with slightly different phrasing. As amended below, claim 5 has been canceled with all of the limitations of claim 5 being included in claim 4. Claim 6 has been amended to more clearly show that it is directed to the timing of the secondary demultiplexing. It is submitted that this amendment overcomes the objection to claim 6 and withdrawal of this objection is requested.

Claims 1-6 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gardner et al. (US Patent No. 6,327,275) in view of Eleftheriadis et al. (US Patent No. 6,079,566).

It must be noted that the rejection actually states 'claims 1-7,' which is believed to be a typographical error. The rejection addresses claims 1 and 4 in detail and indicates that claims 2, 3, 5 and 6 were objected to. Applicant has responded to this office action as if the rejection were on claims 1 and 4. There is no claim 7 in the application.

Claims 2, 3, 5 and 6 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In the alternative, Applicant has rewritten the independent claims 1 and 4 to include the limitations of the objected to dependent claims 3 and 5, canceling claims 3 and 5 by this amendment.

It is therefore submitted that independent claims 1 and 4 are patentably distinguishable over the prior art and allowance of these claims is requested. Further, claims 2 and 6 depend from claims 1 and 4 and should be ruled allowable for that reason and for their own merits.

No new matter has been added by this amendment. Allowance of all claims is requested. The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at (503) 222-3613 if it appears that an interview would be helpful in advancing the case.

Customer No. 46404

Respectfully submitted,

MARGER JOHNSON & McCOLLOM, P.C.

Julie L. Reed

Julie L. Reed
Reg. No. 35,349

MARGER JOHNSON & McCOLLOM
1030 SW Morrison Street
Portland, OR 97205
(503) 222-3613